



President Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden, is convicted of all 3 felonies in federal gun trial

By RANDALL CHASE, CLAUDIA LAUER, MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, COLLEEN LONG and ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — Hunter Biden was convicted Tuesday of all three felony charges related to the purchase of a revolver in 2018 when, prosecutors argued, the president's son lied on a mandatory gun-purchase form by saying he was not illegally using or addicted to drugs.

Hunter Biden, 54, stared straight ahead and showed little emotion as the verdict was read after jury deliberations that lasted only three hours over two days. He hugged his attorneys, smiled wanly and kissed his wife, Melissa, before leaving the courtroom with her.

President Joe Biden said in a statement issued shortly after the verdict that he would accept the outcome and "continue to respect the judicial process as Hunter considers an appeal." Now Hunter Biden and presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, the president's chief political rival, have both been convicted by American jurors in an election year that has been as much about the courtroom as about campaign events and rallies.



Hunter Biden departs from federal court, Tuesday, June 11, 2024, in Wilmington, Del.

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Continued from Front

Hunter Biden faces up to 25 years in prison when he is sentenced by U.S. District Judge Maryellen Noreika, though as a first-time offender he would not get anywhere near the maximum, and there's no guarantee the judge would send him to prison. She did not set a sentencing date. Defense attorney Abbe Lowell said they would "continue to vigorously pursue all the legal challenges available." In a written statement, Hunter Biden said he was disappointed by the outcome but grateful for the support of family and friends.

The jury's decision was read swiftly after the announcement that it reached a verdict. First lady Jill Biden sat through nearly every day of the trial but did not make it into the courtroom in time to hear the verdict. Hunter Biden walked out of the courthouse holding hands with the first lady and his wife before they got into waiting SUVs and drove off. Joe Biden steered clear of the federal courtroom in Delaware where his son was tried and said little about the case, wary of appearing to interfere in a criminal matter brought by his own Justice Department. But allies of the Democrat have worried about the toll that the trial — and now the conviction — will take on the 81-year-old, who has long been concerned with his only living son's health and sustained sobriety.

Hunter Biden's conviction came just weeks after Trump was found guilty of 34 felony charges related to a hush money payment to a porn actor in the 2016 campaign. The cases are in no way the same, and Hunter Biden is a private citizen who is not running for office. But they have both argued they were victimized by the politics of the moment.

Trump, however, has continued to falsely claim his verdict was "rigged," while



Hunter Biden, President Joe Biden's son, accompanied by his mother, first lady Jill Biden and his wife, Melissa Cohen Biden, walks out of federal court after hearing the verdict, Tuesday, June 11, 2024, in Wilmington, Del.

Joe Biden has said he would accept the verdict involving his son and would not seek to pardon him. In his statement Tuesday, the president said he and the first lady are proud of their son, who says he has been sober since 2019, and will always be there for him with "love and support."

Trump's campaign called the verdict "nothing more than a distraction from the real crimes of the Biden Crime Family." Trump and his allies have pressed unsubstantiated or debunked allegations that Joe Biden acted while vice president to advance his family members' foreign business interests.

The verdict came down as the president prepared to give a speech at a conference hosted by the Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund in Washington. He did

not mention his son as he spoke about his administration's efforts to stop gun violence and the need to ban so-called assault weapons. The president planned to spend Tuesday evening with family in Delaware before leaving Wednesday for the Group of Seven leaders conference in Italy.

Jurors found Hunter Biden guilty of lying to a federally licensed gun dealer, making a false claim on the application by saying he was not a drug user and illegally having the gun for 11 days. The trial played out in the president's home state, where Hunter Biden grew up and where the family is deeply established. Joe Biden spent 36 years as a senator in Delaware, commuting daily to Washington, and his other son, Beau Biden, was the state attorney general before he died of cancer.

The proceedings put a spotlight on a dark time in Hunter Biden's life, with deeply personal testimony from former romantic partners and embarrassing evidence, including text messages and photos of Hunter Biden with drug paraphernalia or partially clothed. In his closing argument on Monday, prosecutor Leo Wise acknowledged the evidence was "ugly." But he told jurors it was also "absolutely necessary" to prove Hunter was in the throes of addiction when he bought the gun and therefore lied when he checked "no" on the form that asked whether he was "an unlawful user of, or addicted to" drugs.

Before the case went to the jury, the prosecutor urged jurors to pay no mind to members of the president's family sitting in the courtroom, telling them: "People

sitting in the gallery are not evidence."

David Weiss, the prosecutor who has led the long-running investigation into the president's son, told reporters the case was about Hunter Biden's "illegal choices" and "dangerous" conduct.

"No one in this country is above the law," said Weiss, the Trump-nominated U.S. attorney for Delaware, who was named special counsel by Attorney General Merrick Garland in August. "Everyone must be accountable for their actions."

Hunter Biden's lawyers had argued that he did not consider himself an "addict" when he bought the gun. They sought to show he was trying to turn his life around at the time, having completed a rehabilitation program at the end of August 2018.

Hunter Biden's legal troubles aren't over. He faces a trial in September in California on charges of failing to pay \$1.4 million in taxes, and congressional Republicans have signaled they will keep going after him in their stalled impeachment effort into the president.

The president has not been accused or charged with any wrongdoing by prosecutors investigating his son. Just last year, it appeared that Hunter Biden would avoid the spectacle of a trial so close to the election. Under a deal with prosecutors, he was supposed to plead guilty to misdemeanor tax offenses and avoid prosecution in the gun case if he stayed out of trouble for two years. But the deal fell apart after Noreika, who was nominated by Trump, questioned unusual aspects of the proposed agreement, and the lawyers could not resolve the matter.

Hunter Biden has said he was charged because the Justice Department bowed to pressure from Republicans who argued the Democratic president's son was getting special treatment. □

Associated Press

More global confidence in Biden than Trump even as views of U.S. democracy decline, poll finds

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI**
Associated Press

People in 34 countries around the world have more confidence in President Joe Biden than his challenger in November's election, former President Donald Trump, even as there is increased skepticism that United States democracy provides a good model for the rest of the world to follow, according to a poll from the Pew Research Center released Tuesday. The poll found a median of 43% in the surveyed countries say they trust Biden to do the right thing in world affairs compared to 28% for Trump. People had a more positive assessment of Biden than Trump in 24 countries, while Trump led in Hungary and Tunisia and the two men were effectively tied in eight other countries.

The greater confidence in Biden comes as faith in U.S. democracy is waning. While a median of 54% in the 34 countries polled have positive views of the U.S., a median of 4 in 10 across the surveyed nations told the pollsters that its democracy used to be a good example for other countries to follow but no longer is. A median of 21% said U.S. democracy remains a good example for other nations, while an almost identical share, 22%, said it never has been. Since the spring of 2021, the only other time Pew asked the question, the share of those who believe U.S. democracy is a good example has fallen in eight countries, mostly in Europe. "People just don't see the U.S. political system as functioning very well," said Richard Wike, director of global attitudes research for Pew. "People see the U.S. as really divided along partisan lines."

There is far less of a global divide between Trump and Biden. Confidence in the current president to do the right thing in world affairs has dropped since his first year in office but remains well above that of



French President Emmanuel Macron, right, and President Joe Biden toast during a state dinner, June 8, 2024 at the Elysee Palace, in Paris.

Associated Press

his rival, who had relatively low global ratings during his own presidency. Biden's lowest confidence ratings were over his handling of the Israel-Hamas war, with a median of 57% saying they had no confidence in it.

A median of 39% in the surveyed countries said they approved of Biden's handling of the war in Ukraine, with his highest ratings in European nations. And a median of about four in 10 were confident in his handling of China.

Of the five leaders rated in the survey, French President Emmanuel Macron registered the highest level of confidence, just ahead of Biden, while Russian President Vladimir Putin received the lowest.

While confidence in Biden has dwindled in countries ranging from South Africa to Israel to the U.K., it remains steadily higher than that in Trump. The former president received his poorest assessments in Europe where those expressing no confidence in him included more than eight in 10 adults in France, Germany and Sweden and Latin America. Africa, which Wike said tends to have positive views of U.S. presidents, registered some of Trump's best numbers. Even in the two countries where more confidence was expressed in Trump than Biden, they were down on the former

president. In Tunisia, for example, only 17% expressed confidence in him.

Hungary is the other country where adults report higher confidence in Trump than Biden, but even there it's far from a ringing endorsement.

Trump has embraced Hungary and its autocratic prime minister, Viktor Orbán, but only 37% in Hungary say they're confident in him, compared to 24% for Biden.

The median level of confidence in Trump's ability to do the right thing in world affairs was only slightly higher across the 34 countries than it was for Chinese President Xi Jinping. □

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Federal appeals court weighs challenge to Iowa ban on books with sexual content from schools

By **STEVE KARNOWSKI**

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Attorneys for LGBTQ+ youth, teachers and major publishers asked a federal appeals court Tuesday to affirm a lower court order that blocked key parts of an Iowa law banning books depicting sex acts from school libraries and classrooms.

The law, which the Republican-led Legislature and GOP Gov. Kim Reynolds approved in 2023, also forbids teachers from raising gender identity and sexual orientation issues with younger students. It resulted in the removal of hundreds of books from Iowa schools before U.S. District Judge Stephen Locher blocked its enforcement in December, calling it "incredibly broad."

"Iowa students are entitled to express and receive diverse viewpoints at school. But the State taking aim at already vulnerable LGBTQ+ students seeks to silence them, erase from schools any recognition that LGBTQ+ people exist, and bully students, librarians, and teachers into



The U.S. District Courthouse for the District of Minnesota is shown on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, in St. Paul, Minn.

quiet acquiescence," attorneys for the students wrote in a brief ahead of Tuesday's oral arguments before a three-judge panel of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Paul, Minnesota. In addition to schools removing books with LGBTQ+ themes from libraries, they also shut down extracurricular clubs

dealing with those issues and removed pride flags from classrooms, the students' attorneys wrote. Students had to censor themselves about their gender identities and sexual orientations, according to the attorneys. Attorneys for the state of Iowa argued that the law is constitutional and that the

state has a right to enforce it. "The government's interest in ensuring an education suitable to students' age and in preventing minor students' exposure to inappropriate material is a legitimate, compelling, even substantial one. And removing from school library shelves books that describe or depict 'sex

acts' is reasonably related to that legitimate interest," they wrote in their brief.

Iowa enacted its law amid a wave of similar legislation across the country. The proposals have typically come from Republican lawmakers, who say the laws are designed to affirm parents' rights and protect children. The laws often seek to prohibit discussion of gender and sexual orientation issues, ban treatments such as puberty blockers for transgender children, and restrict the use of restrooms in schools. Many have prompted court challenges.

The organization Iowa Safe Schools and seven students, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa and Lambda Legal, sued to challenge the law in November. A separate challenge was filed later the same week by the Iowa State Education Association teachers union, publisher Penguin Random House and four authors. The cases were combined for Tuesday's hearing before the federal appeals court. □

Associated Press

FBI data show sharp drop in violent crime but steepness is questioned



An FBI seal is seen on a wall on Aug. 10, 2022, in Omaha, Neb.

Associated Press

By **MEAD GRUVER**

Associated Press

The Biden administration is taking credit for a sharp drop in violent crime nationwide earlier this year but one expert cautions that the declines in FBI data

are preliminary and likely overstated.

The data show steep drops in every category of violent crime in every region in the first three months of 2024 compared to a year earlier, continuing a downward

trend since a coronavirus pandemic surge.

Murder and rape were both down 26%, robbery was down 18%, and aggravated assault fell by 13% in the first quarter. Overall violent crime was down 15%, reflecting drops in every region, from 10% in the West to 19% in the Midwest, according to the FBI data released Monday.

Property crime meanwhile decreased by 15%, according to the data trumpeted by President Joe Biden in a statement.

"My administration is putting more cops on the beat, holding violent criminals accountable and getting illegal guns off the street and we are doing it in partnership with communities. As a result, Americans are safer today than when I

took office," Biden said.

The declines were consistent with previous reports showing improvement since crime surged during the coronavirus pandemic. But a crime data analyst was skeptical the latest declines were quite so steep. Violent crime almost certainly did fall earlier this year but the FBI almost certainly overstated by how much, Jeff Asher with the data consulting firm AH DataLytics wrote in an online post. The preliminary data for 77% of the U.S. population is prone to reporting errors, which law enforcement agencies have months to correct before making final submissions, Asher noted. The declining trend is likely correct but other data show different rates of declining violent crime by city

and even a slight increase in violent crime in New York in the first three months of 2024, Asher wrote.

"I would urge strong caution into reading too much into the raw percent changes and focus on the overarching picture. Almost all crime data is imperfect and the quarterly data adds an important imperfect piece to the national crime trend jigsaw puzzle," Asher wrote.

In 2020, homicides surged 29% for the biggest one-year jump in FBI records. Experts suggested the massive disruption of the pandemic, gun violence, worries about the economy and intense stress were to blame.

Violent crime fell back to near pre-pandemic levels in 2022 and dropped further in 2023. □

UN Security Council adopts a cease-fire resolution aimed at ending Israel-Hamas war in Gaza

By EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council on Monday overwhelmingly approved its first resolution endorsing a cease-fire plan aimed at ending the eight-month war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. The U.S.-sponsored resolution welcomes a cease-fire proposal announced by President Joe Biden that the United States says Israel has accepted. It calls on the militant Palestinian group Hamas to accept the three-phase plan. The resolution which was approved with 14 of the 15 Security Council members voting in favor and Russia abstaining calls on Israel and Hamas "to fully implement its terms without delay and without condition." Whether Israel and Hamas agree to go forward with the plan remains in question, but the resolution's strong support in the U.N.'s most powerful body puts added pressure on both parties to approve the proposal. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in Israel on Monday, where he urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to accept the plan for post-



In this photo provided by the United Nations, members of the UN Security Council vote to approve its first resolution endorsing a cease-fire plan aimed at ending the eight-month war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, Monday, June 10, 2024.

war Gaza as he pushed for more international pressure on Hamas to agree to the cease-fire proposal. Netanyahu has been skeptical of the deal, saying that Israel is still committed to destroying Hamas. Hamas said it welcomed the adoption of the resolution and was ready to work with mediators in indirect negotiations with Israel to implement it. The statement was among the stron-

gest from Hamas to date, but it stressed the group would continue its struggle against Israeli occupation and work on setting up a "fully sovereign" Palestinian state. "Efforts are continuing to study and clarify some matters to ensure implementation by the Israeli side," Hamas spokesperson Jihad Taha said Tuesday. He said Israel was "stalling and procrastinating and creating

obstacles in order to continue the aggression." A senior Israeli diplomat did not directly mention the resolution, telling the council Israel's position is unwavering: "We will continue until all of the hostages are returned and until Hamas' military and governing capabilities are dismantled." "This also means that Israel will not engage in meaningless and endless negotiations, which can be

exploited by Hamas as a means to stall for time," Minister Counsellor Reut Shapir Ben Naftaly said. U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield reiterated, however, that Israel has accepted the cease-fire deal, which is supported by countries around the world. The resolution's adoption, she said, "sent a clear message to Hamas to accept the cease-fire deal on the table." "The fighting could stop today, if Hamas would do the same," Thomas-Greenfield told the council. "I repeat, this fighting could stop today." U.S. deputy ambassador Robert Wood told reporters earlier on Monday that the United States sees the deal as "the best, most realistic opportunity to bring at least a temporary halt to this war." Earlier Monday, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad leaders met in Qatar to discuss the proposed cease-fire deal and said later that any deal must lead to a permanent cease-fire, a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, reconstruction and "a serious exchange deal" between hostages in Gaza and Palestinians held in Israeli jails. □

Associated Press

4 Dutch parties say they've reached agreement on ministers in a new right-wing government

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The four parties negotiating to form a coalition government in the Netherlands have reached agreement on a new team of Cabinet ministers, far-right leader Geert Wilders said Tuesday. It's another key step toward forming the first Dutch government led by a far-right party. Wilders, whose Party for Freedom won national elections more than six months ago, did not immediately give details. "There is a deal, you'll hear more in the coming hours, days," Wilders told report-

ers in The Hague. The team of ministers will be made up of members of the four parties in the coalition and outside experts a so-called technocratic administration. Prospective ministers will have to undergo interviews in the lower house of parliament before the new government can be sworn in by Dutch King Willem-Alexander. No dates were immediately set. Anti-Islam lawmaker Wilders convincingly won the November election but took months to cobble together an outline coalition deal. Wilders, a divisive figure who has in the past been convicted of in-

sulting Moroccans, agreed not to become prime minister because of opposition from coalition partners. Former intelligence agency chief Dick Schoof was named last week as the candidate to replace outgoing Prime Minister Mark Rutte. Wilders is building a coalition with Rutte's center-right People's Party for Freedom and Democracy, the populist Farmer Citizen Movement and the centrist New Social Contract party. A deal published by the parties outlining their policy objectives pledges to introduce strict measures on asylum-seekers, scrap fam-

ily reunification for refugees and reduce the number

of international students studying in the country. □



Anti-Islam lawmaker Geert Wilders of the PVV, or Party for Freedom, casts his ballot for the European election in The Hague, Netherlands, Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Associated Press

Chinese police say a suspect is in custody in the stabbing of 4 U.S. college instructors

By **KEN MORITSUGU** and **DIDI TANG**

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese police have detained a suspect in a stabbing attack on four instructors from Iowa's Cornell College who were teaching at a Chinese university in the northeast city of Jilin, officials said Tuesday. Jilin city police said a 55-year-old man surnamed Cui was walking in a public park on Monday when he bumped into a foreigner. He stabbed the foreigner and three other foreigners who were with him, and also stabbed a Chinese person who approached in an attempt to intervene, police said. A police statement did not give any indication of the motive for the attack. The instructors from Cornell College were teaching at Beihua University, officials at the U.S. school said. The injured were rushed to a hospital for treatment and none was in critical condition, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said at a daily briefing Tuesday. He said police believe the attack in Jilin city's Beishan Park was an isolated incident, based on a preliminary assessment, and the



Tourists walk past a gateway with the name "Beishan" seen at the Beishan Park in northeastern China's Jilin province on Jan 23, 2020.

Associated Press

investigation is ongoing. Cornell College President Jonathan Brand said in a statement that the instructors were attacked while at the park with a faculty member from Beihua, which is in an outlying part of Jilin, an industrial city about 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) north-east of Beijing. Monday was a public holiday in China. Nicholas Burns, the U.S. ambassador to China, posted

on the social media site X that he was "angered and deeply troubled by the stabbing" of three U.S. citizens and one non-citizen resident of Iowa. "We are doing all we can do help them and hope for their full & speedy recovery," he wrote. The attack happened as both Beijing and Washington are seeking to expand people-to-people exchanges to help bolster relations amid

tensions over trade and such international issues as Taiwan, the South China Sea and the war in Ukraine. An Iowa state lawmaker posted a statement on Instagram saying his brother, David Zabner, had been wounded during a stabbing attack in Jilin. Rep. Adam Zabner described his brother as a doctoral student at Tufts University who was in China under the Cornell-Beihua

relationship. "I spoke to David a few minutes ago, he is recovering from his injuries and doing well," Adam Zabner wrote, adding that his brother was grateful for the care he received at a hospital.

News of the incident was suppressed in China, where the government maintains control on information about anything considered sensitive.

News media outlets had not reported it. Some social media accounts posted foreign media reports about the attack, but a hashtag about it was blocked on a popular portal and photos and video of the incident were quickly taken down.

Cornell spokesperson Jen Visser said in an email that the college was still gathering information about what happened.

Visser said the private college in Mount Vernon, Iowa, partners with Beihua University. A college news release from 2018, when the program started, says Beihua provides funding for Cornell professors to travel to China to teach a portion of courses in computer science, mathematics and physics over a two-week period. □

Haiti's transitional council appoints new Cabinet tasked with leading a country under siege by gangs

By **EVENS SANON** and **DÁNICA COTO**

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Haiti's transitional council appointed a new Cabinet



Garry Conille, fourth from right, poses for photos with members of the transitional council after his swearing-in ceremony as prime minister in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, June 3, 2024.

Associated Press

net on Tuesday, marking the final step in rebuilding the government that will lead a country under siege by gangs.

Government spokeswoman Kettia Marcellus confirmed the existence of the new Cabinet and its ministers to The Associated Press. Carlos Hercules, the attorney for Prime Minister Garry Conille, was appointed as minister of justice and public security. Conille himself will be interior minister. Jean Marc Berthier Antoine will be defense minister. Haiti struggles with gangs that control at least 80% of the capital of Port-au-Prince. It is preparing for the U.N.-backed deployment

of a police force from Kenya expected in the coming weeks.

Weeks of coordinated attacks by gangs forced former prime minister Ariel Henry to resign in April, and his Cabinet was dissolved. Gunmen took control of police stations, opened fire on the main international airport that remained closed for nearly three months and stormed Haiti's two biggest prisons. More than 2,500 people were killed or injured in the first three months of the year and more than half a million others displaced as Haiti prepares for the U.N.-backed deployment of a police force from Kenya

expected in the coming weeks.

Conille has pledged to crack down on the violence.

Dominique Dupuy, a UNESCO ambassador who was once a member of the transitional council before resigning, will be foreign affairs minister. She resigned in part because of political attacks and death threats. The new Cabinet has four women.

Critics note that Haiti's government barely has female representation. One woman with non-voting powers sits on the transitional council, and no women were interviewed for the post of prime minister. □

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Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry is located in San Nicolas—better known as the art capital of Aruba. This museum exhibits the industrial history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower

in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history, which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments Fund in 2003 so it can be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruba Museum Foundation (Fundacion Museo Aruban), which is a foundation set to maintain, preserve, and protect the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information,

check out their Facebook page Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in the area has been transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.

In the late 1980's, AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and



20th century on a plot of approximately 1.700 m2.

In 1997, the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeological Museum project. In 2004, a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006, restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the soon-to-be exhibition space. In December 2007, the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location, the National Archaeological Museum Aruba disposes of approximately 500 m2 for its permanent exhibit. This exhibit conveys information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island through archaeological objects and modern exhibition techniques. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum also hosts attractive public programs, including lectures, educational projects, temporary exhibits and workshops.

The museum is open daily from 9:30 am till 4:30 pm. For more information check out the Facebook page Museo Arqueologico Nacional Aruba. □



Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

ORANJESTAD - Aruba's City Center Street Car - or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" - is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

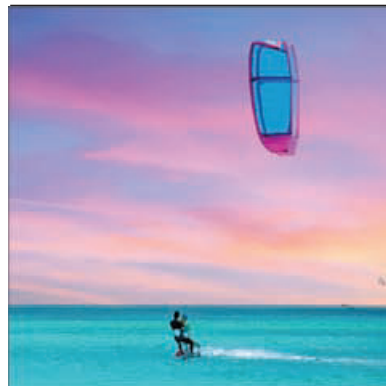
Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would

not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00pm. Don't miss this tour of

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provides you the freedom to call anytime or choose from the different Prepaid bundles SETAR offers: Data Bundles: Stay connected with high-speed Internet and choose from various data options to suit your needs.

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Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!



(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!


These "coconut stands" can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas
- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach (Near the Ling & Song Supermarket) ☐





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Aruba To You Expands Its Network with 20 Restaurants and Partners with Property Management Companies for Exclusive Promotions

(Oranjestad)—Aruba To You, Aruba's innovative food delivery service, continues to expand its offerings with nearly 20 restaurants now part of its platform. In a strategic move to enhance dining experiences for tourists and locals alike, Aruba To You is partnering with leading property management companies to offer special promotions to their clients.

Since its inception on March 6, 2024, Aruba To You has rapidly grown, reflecting its commitment to connecting customers with a wide variety of dining options. The service's partnership with property management companies aims to bring unique dining deals directly to the accommodations of visitors, enriching their stay on the island.

"We are excited about these collaborations, which are geared towards creating an even more memorable experience for guests by providing them with convenient access to some of the best food Aruba has to offer right at their doorstep," said Gianluca Sardo, Co-founder of Aruba To You.

Aruba To You invites all property management companies on the island to join this initiative, aiming to create a comprehensive network that benefits both visitors and local businesses. Through these partnerships, Aruba To You reinforces its mission to support the local community and drive a positive impact on Aruba's tourism and hospitality industry.

For more information about Aruba To You, to view the list of partner restaurants, or to learn more about the special promotions available through our property management partners, please visit app.arubatoyou.com, contact us via email at info@arubatoyou.com, or connect with us on WhatsApp at +297 568 3974. □

Contact:
Gianluca Sardo
Co-founder
Aruba To You
Email: info@arubatoyou.com
Phone: +297 568 3974
Website: app.arubatoyou.com

Craving a late-night snack? We got you covered!

(Oranjestad)—After a night out it's custom to grab yourself a late-night snack on the road. Here in Aruba, there are dozens of food trucks that you can visit to enjoy a late-night bite. Here are a few that can be found in the down town/hotel area.

Chalo burger

Chalo burger is a favorite among locals, and it's due to its popularity that it has branched out to different parts on the island. One of its main locations is in Palm Beach, near the hotel area. Chalo offers a variety of fast-food meals, like hamburgers, hotdogs, loaded fries and more! A popular dish among locals is the Salchipapa: loaded fries with sausages, cheese and a mix of sweet and savory sauce. Perfect for those late-night cravings!

Julio's Corner

Situated in a nice little corner off the highway, Julio's Corner has a huge menu comprised of different dishes and snacks, all made with a Venezuelan twist! From arepa's to chicken wings, to pizzas and burgers, Julio's Corner has it all to satisfy your taste! Editor's choice for what to get at Julio's Corner is the quesadilla, which comes with a side of fries.

Julio's Corner is open Mondays through Saturday from 6pm to 2am (Fridays and Saturdays up to 4am), and is located in the parking lot of

the Eagle Bowling Palace, right on the other side of the road from the Sasaki gas station.

Habibi Express

Habibi Express is a Lebanese food truck stand, one of very few food trucks on the island to sell Mediterranean food. Located right at the entrance of The Local Market near the cruise ship port, here you can fill your stomach (and heart) with a variety of options like shawarmas, doners, kapsalons and more, all 100% halal. When asked, the chef there recommends all foodies to try their lamb shawarma, as it's a favorite among guests.

Habibi Express is open every day from 5pm to 12am. While you're there, how about a picture with the genie? □



Article by Etnia Nativa

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Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



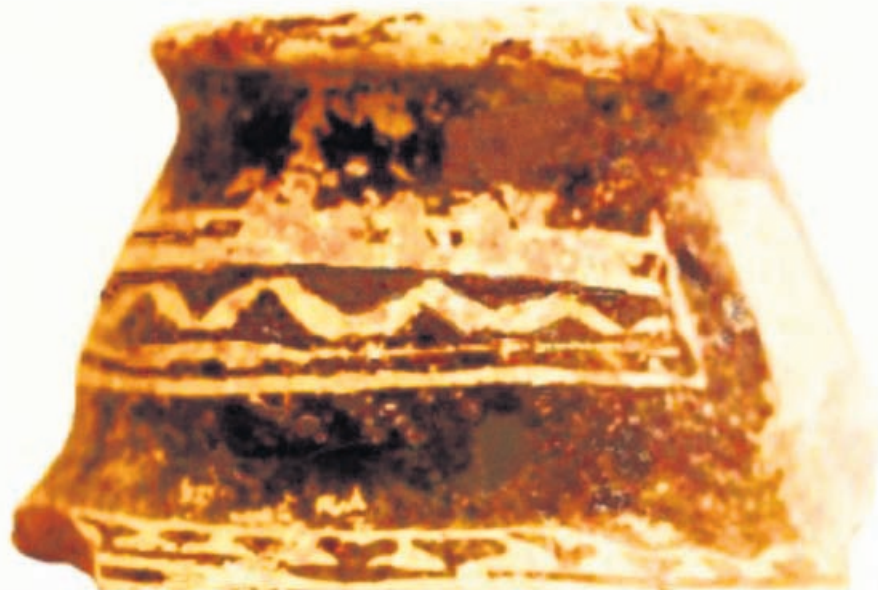
Mystical DABAJURO style

Episode CCLIX-259

Etnia Nativa is a one-of-a-kind cultural interactive experience location that enriches this newspaper through each and every episode with island traditions, cultural heritage, and knowledge that goes beyond the native flora and fauna of our island. Its column, Island Insight, will definitely reveal to you an Aruba you never could have discovered. Aruba has a very valuable intangible cultural heritage, a “living heritage,” which includes practical expressions and crafty techniques transmitted from generation to generation. Spreading the island’s traditions is one of Etnia Nativa’s main objectives. This episode shares a bit about the mystical Dabajuro style—a series of geometric designs that turned out to be unique and expressed in ceramic decorations that defined an era of cultural identity and Aruba’s heritable existence.

Our native Caquetian insular forefathers developed the style classified as Dabajuroide, in honor of the nearby city of Dabajuro in Venezuela, where pieces of well-crafted ceramic pottery were found, giving it the name to distinguish it from the rest. The decorated ceramic pieces—fine, thin, and of great quality—had classic polychrome designs, made with various shades of red, orange, black, and white pigment combinations, covering a variety of shapes and techniques such as incision, applique, indentation, and finely polished morphology.

It is evident that pottery was very important for these sedentary Amerindians of the agro-ceramic period, as well as for fishermen who venerated the clay as a gift of knowledge obtained from mother earth. Baking large vessels demonstrates great technical skill in their production, while some are associated with burial and the cult of the dead. Others were used intensively in everyday life to store liquids such as corn beer, honey, jerky, seeds, roots, medicine, etc. Clay was also used to build their dwellings and was applied in funerary practices, agro-religious traditions, and shamanic ceremonies.



Predominant within the archaeological record of our island are three main ceramic sites interpreted as permanent settlements that offered a large quantity of Dabajuro-decorated pottery, lithic materials, and special artifacts: Tanki Flip inland in the east of the island, Santa Cruz in the center, and Savaneta at the coastal southwest of the island. These sites are situated more or less on one straight line to each other (see map). Surface findings and excavation production in the subsoil of these sites suggest that all three were large, permanently inhabited villages for considerable periods of time. Our columnist had participated as a student in the first Tanki Flip site excavated, which took place from 1971 through 1979. These excavations resulted in the discovery of larger oval structures and smaller round ones. However in other sites, such as Tanki Lender and Parkietenbos-West, fewer ceramic pieces of Dabajuro-decorated pottery were found.

The Dabajuro style is among the most complex works in this region, and its classic painted designs include various forms of zoomorphic as well as anthropomorphic figures. Advocating for the return to ancestral practices and using the prehistoric technique of grind-

ing various tones of ocher to obtain color pigments such as brown, reddish brown, red, light yellow, orange, and black, creating intriguing motifs, wavy edges, or additional applications of sacred animals such as heads of frogs, bats, birds, turtles, etc., as well as effigies made out of various types of shell, Etnia Nativa creates unique and gorgeous works of tradition.

If you are really interested in learning a bit more about our true island identity, booking your visit to Etnia Nativa is infallible. It is the operation center of Anthony, our chief cultural columnist, who has been a trend-setter since 1994. Meet him, one of the key realizers of our National Park Project, the Archaeological Museum, and others. His main goal is to provide valuable knowledge of the island to our distinguished visitors.

Etnia Nativa sets itself apart from the rest as a hidden gem by offering a personal native touch and providing the opportunity to enjoy a diverse array of native artworks, objects, artifacts, dead animal stuffed, plants, colonial furniture, unique old photos, etc. while dipping you into the navel of Aruba. Book your visit: WhatsApp +297 592 2702 etnianativa03@gmail.com



Visit the island's popular cave sites!



(Oranjestad)—Among the endless sea of dark brown sand and cacti, there are two caves hidden in the outskirts of San Nicolas, in the north-eastern area of the island. These caves, The Quadirikiri cave and The Fontein Cave are open to visitors of the Arikok National Park, so if you ever decide to take an “off-road” tour in the park, be sure to visit these prehistoric caves...and be sure to bring a flashlight!

Quadirikiri Cave

Known for its two chambers accompanied by a skylight, the Quadirikiri Cave is the most popular cave among locals and tourists, as it is easy to walk through and provides great lighting for pictures.

As with all prehistoric or ancient sites, there is always a folk legend that adds to the lore and mystery of the site. The Quadirikiri cave is no different. The most well-known legend behind the cave could be considered as Aruba's first love story, as it tells the tale of the undying love between the chief's daughter and her beloved. As legend would have it, the chief disapproved of his daughter's choice of lover, as he thought him unworthy. Stubborn and filled with anger, the daughter refused to turn away her beloved.

So, the chief decided to lock her up in the Quadirikiri

Cave, in hopes that she would soon calm down and turn away her lover. Her beloved, in turn, was locked away in the Tunnel of Love (Now known as the Huliba Cave).

Through the pathways underneath the Tunnel of Love running up to the Quadirikiri cave, the two love birds found each other, and refused to let each other go. Because of their stubbornness, they both died in the Quadirikiri Cave, their ascending spirits burning two holes in the ceiling of the cave. This is why the cave has two holes through which sunlight passes through to illuminate the chamber.

Though there have been discoveries of Amerindian drawing on the wall, these have mostly been ruined by vandalism. However, the Fontein Cave further up north, provides a better glimpse in prehistoric Amerindian paintings.

Fontein Cave

Longer than the Quadirikiri Cave, the Fontein Cave contains pathways that stretch to the limestone walls further down. Here is also where prehistoric drawings can be seen. Though this cave does not have its own legend, this was speculated to have been occupied—or at least used by prehistoric Arawak settlers on the island for rituals and other spiritual

ceremonies.

The Huliba Cave/ Tunnel of Love

The Huliba Cave, formerly known as the Tunnel of Love, was once open to the public, and was the biggest and most accessible of all three caves. This cave had five chambers, including one that is heart-shaped. This cave had narrow stairs that led to long pathways deep into the cave, with a staircase leading to the exit on the other side. In one of the chambers, there used to be the carving of the Virgin Mary, put there for the protection of the cave.

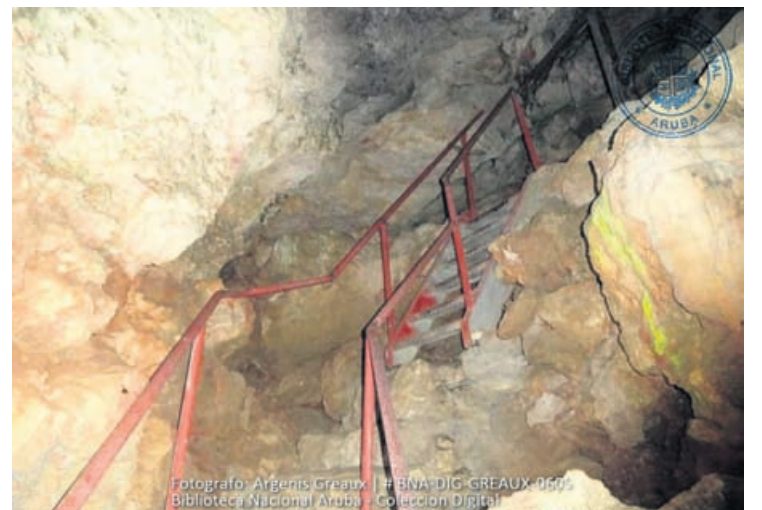
However, the Huliba Cave has been permanently closed for a few years now, as a way to preserve the bat population that lives in the cave. These Long Tongue Fruit Bats and Insect Eater Bats are very important to the ecosystem of the island. Though this cave is no longer accessible to the public, it surely is interesting to learn more about the history of these caves and the Awarak tribes that resided or utilized them.

Do note that these caves are very dark, humid, hot, and are inhabited by bats. Do wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as the pathways in these caves may be rough and bumpy, and don't forget to bring a flashlight! □

Note to visitors:

Due to heavy rainfall in the past few days, Arikok National Park has informed that they have closed the Quadirikiri Cave until further notice for the safety of visitors.

Fontein remains open from 9am to 4pm.



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Ease up
6 Sunset site
10 Jimmy Smits series
11 Grand, for one
12 Battery, e.g.
13 Rocker John
14 Fine study
15 Ripen
16 Poker prize
17 Melody
18 For each
19 Skunks
22 Turn to liquid
23 Outfits
26 Old World rodents
29 Brink
32 Phone bill addition
33 Ray-gun sound
34 Boxing combo
36 Soccer great
37 Opera's Callas
38 2008 Pixar movie
39 Rage
40 Gawked at

DOWN

- 41 Call for
42 Like an untended garden
1 Dogpatch creator
2 Watering hole
3 Some-what
4 Scots' caps
5 Ram's mate
6 Droop
7 "Dig in!"
8 Boring movie
9 Copier need
11 Partridge perch
15 Hamm of soccer
17 Aggres-sive
20 Avenue tree
21 Polite address
24 Graceful antelope
25 Seized up
27 Summer sign
28 Swift
29 Caesar, for one
30 Non-sensical
31 Come together
35 Even
36 Book unit
38 Impress greatly

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Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9
10						11			
12						13			
14						15			
16					17			18	
19				20			21		
	22					23		24	25
			26			27			28
29	30	31		32				33	
34			35					36	
37						38			
39						40			
41						42			

3-20

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-20

CRYPTOQUOTE

D W V U X D U ' T U X J U X M W N
D S B Q U O J B O G J P X B F J D W
J Y J Z C U X M W N U X J C T D C . U X J C
U X M W L J Y J Z C B W J J G T J V B J T
U B B . — L X D G J V X B T T J M W M

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SPRING IS NATURE'S WAY OF SAYING, "LET'S PARTY!" — ROBIN WILLIAMS

Cruise ship Schedule: June 01 - June 25 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
SAT	01	NORWEGIAN JADE	10.00	20.00	C	1
THU	06	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	11	SILVER SHADOW	08.00	23.00	B	1
		ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	13.00	23.00	I	1
WED	12	CARNIVAL HORIZON	07.00	15.00	B	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	18	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
TUE	25	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks during an Apple event in Cupertino, Calif., Monday, June 10, 2024.

Associated Press

Key new features coming to Apple's iOS 18 this fall

Apple announced a slew of new features for iOS 18 at Monday's developers conference event, many of which are designed to enhance the Siri assistant and bring artificial intelligence tools to iPhone users.

The AI-packed updates coming in the fall are meant to enable the billions of people who use the company's devices to get more done in less time, while also giving them access to creative tools that could liven things up. For instance, Apple will deploy AI to allow people to create emojis, dubbed "Genmojis" on the fly to fit the vibe they are trying to convey.

The full suite of upcoming AI features will only work on the recent iPhone 15 line because the functions require advanced processors. But there are still plenty of upgrades for all iPhone owners.

Here are some of the best new features coming to iOS 18 and Apple Intelligence.

Scheduled texts, tap backs and RCSApple confirmed that it will be rolling out a technology called Rich Communications Service, or RCS, to its iMessage app. The technology should improve the quality and security of texting between iPhones and devices powered by Android software, such as the Samsung Galaxy and Google Pixel.

In another upcoming change to the iPhone's messaging app, users will be able to write a text (or have an AI tool compose it) in advance and schedule a specific time to automatically send it. □

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Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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World Bank boosts forecast: Strength of US economy will support global growth of 2.6% this year

By **PAUL WISEMAN**
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank upgraded its outlook for the global economy Tuesday, estimating that it will expand 2.6% this year on the strength of sustained growth in the United States.

The bank's latest outlook marks an increase from the 2.4% growth for 2024 it had predicted in January. And it would match the global economy's 2.6% expansion in 2023.

But the agency cautioned that global growth remains sluggish by past standards, that the poorest countries are struggling under the weight of heavy debts and high interest rates and that increased trade barriers endanger prosperity worldwide. The brutal wars in Ukraine and Gaza are inflicting further pressures on regional economies.

Stronger-than-expected growth in the United States the world's biggest economy accounted for 80% of the World Bank's upgraded outlook. The agency now expects the U.S. economy to expand 2.5% in 2024, the same as in 2023 but up sharply from the 1.6% the bank had predicted in January.

"U.S. growth is exception-



Workers walk among shipping containers in a loading area at a BNSF intermodal terminal, Jan. 3, 2024, in Edgerton, Kan.

al," Ayhan Kose, the bank's deputy chief economist, told The Associated Press ahead of the release of its latest Global Economic Prospects report.

The World Bank, made up of 189 member nations, seeks to reduce poverty and boost living standards by providing grants and low-rate loans to developing economies.

From January through March, the U.S. economy expanded at just a 1.3% annual rate, the slowest pace

in nearly two years, and Kose said the World Bank forecast took the first-quarter slowdown into account. The pullback was due largely to factors that economists view as temporary: A surge in imports and a reduction in business inventories. By contrast, the core components of economic growth — consumer spending and business investment — remained solid in the first three months of the year.

The global and especially the U.S. economies have

proved unexpectedly resilient in the face of high interest rates engineered by the Federal Reserve and other central banks to curb the high inflation that flared up in 2021.

But even after the World Bank's upgrade, global growth looks sluggish a half percentage point below the 2010-2019 average. Inflation has cooled significantly from 7.2% in 2022 to 4.9% last year to a forecast 3.5% in 2024 but remains above where central banks want

it. That means central bank policymakers may be cautious about reducing rates from today's high levels.

That approach, though, carries risks of its own, notably the danger that high borrowing rates will cause economic growth to slow too much.

"There are consequences of keeping interest rates elevated for a longer period," Kose said. "You end up with slower growth. We need to avoid lower-for-longer economic growth around the world."

"The world," he warned, "might become stuck in the slow lane."

Many countries are already under strain. The World Bank expects emerging market and developing countries to collectively grow 4% this year, down from 4.2% in 2023. In many cases, their populations are outpacing their economies, reducing their annual income growth per person to 3% this year through 2026 far below the average 3.8% in the decade before the pandemic struck.

China, the world's second-largest economy after the United States, is struggling with the collapse of its real estate market and with weak consumer confidence. □

Associated Press

What the new 'buy now, pay later' rule means for small businesses offering the service



Shoppers carry bags after making purchases in Bradenton, Fla., Feb. 9, 2024.

Associated Press

By **MAE ANDERSON**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "Buy now, pay later" services are a popular way that shoppers pay for goods.

The payment plan is usually marketed as zero-interest, or low interest, and allows consumers to spread out payments for purchases over several weeks or months.

Because shoppers like the service, offering it can be a plus for a small business. But since the payment plan is offered by third-party companies such as Affirm and

Klarna there can be risks involved too.

If something goes wrong, consumers could blame the small business even if they have nothing to do with the payment plan. And things can go wrong. A report from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in 2022 found that more than 13% of BNPL transactions involved a disputed charge or a return. In 2021, consumers disputed or returned \$1.8 billion in transactions at five large BNPL firms, the CFPB said. The plans also cost small

businesses money typically a 1% to 3% fee, which can add up when margins are tight. But the CFPB issued a new rule that may ease small business owners' minds. The agency said the "buy now, pay later" companies must provide consumers with the same legal rights and protections as credit card lenders do.

That means consumers have legal protections including the rights to dispute charges, easily get a refund directly from the lender for a returned item, and get billing statements. □

Tiger Woods returns to Pinehurst after 19 years and it's not the same. Neither is he

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

PINEHURST, N.C. (AP) — This is not the same Pinehurst No. 2 that Tiger Woods saw 19 years ago when he walked away with a runner-up finish in the U.S. Open, his last time on the property.

It's not the same Tiger Woods, either.

Woods has never gone this long without seeing a major championship course he had played before. He showed up a week ago Tuesday for his first look, and was back on the weekend to get reacquainted with a course that has gone through an extensive restoration first on display in the 2014 U.S. Open. Woods missed that one recovering from the first of four back surgeries.

What hasn't changed is the nature of the U.S. Open.

"This golf course is going to test every single aspect of your game, especially mentally, and just the mental discipline that it takes to play this particular golf course. It's going to take a lot," he said Tuesday after a third straight day of playing nine holes.

This is his first U.S. Open since



Tiger Woods putts as his son Charlie, watches on the seventh hole during a practice round for the U.S. Open golf tournament Tuesday, June 11, 2024, in Pinehurst, N.C.

Associated Press

Winged Foot in 2020.

He has practiced. He has chipped and putted. Woods just doesn't play very much, courtesy of a 48-year-old body wracked by injuries five back surgeries, four knee surgeries, and those were before his February 2021 car crash in Los Angeles that shattered his right leg and ankle.

This will be only his 10th

tournament since that accident, and it's the first time since 2020 that he has played three straight majors. And so it's a matter of needing more repetition, and more competition, but not having a body that allows for that.

What to expect this week? "I feel like I have the strength to be able to do it," he said. "It's just a mat-

ter of doing it."

It's not as though he has nothing else going on outside golf. Woods has been active in PGA Tour discussions as it tries to put the golf landscape back together with the arrival of LIV Golf. He was in New York on Friday as the vice chairman of PGA Tour Enterprises, which met with representatives of the Public Invest-

ment Fund of Saudi Arabia to discuss a PIF investment and what that will mean for all of golf.

He described it, as Rory McIlroy did last week, as "positive" without detail or any indication on whether it's close to getting resolved.

"I think we're closer to that point than we were pre-meeting," he said, which is like saying he's closer to the green than before he hit a tee shot. "We discussed a lot of different endings and how we get there. I think that both sides walked away from the meeting, we all felt very positive in that meeting."

"Both sides were looking at different ways to get to the endgame. I think that both sides shared a deep passion for how we need to get there."

Woods spent Tuesday morning with Max Homa and Min Woo Lee, with 15-year-old son Charlie along for the ride. More than just a spectator, Woods said Charlie knows his game as well as anyone and can serve as an extra set of eyes. "I trust him with my swing and my game. He's seen it more than anybody else in the world. □

10 members of NC State's 1983 national champions sue NCAA over name, image and likeness compensation

By **The Associated Press**

Ten players from North Carolina State's 1983 national champion basketball team have sued the NCAA and the Collegiate Licensing Company seeking compensation for unauthorized use of their name, image and likeness.

The players filed suit in Wake County Superior Court on Monday, requesting a jury trial and "reasonable compensation."

The late Jim Valvano's 1983 team became known as the "Cardiac Pack" for a series of close victories culminating in a 54-52 win over Houston on Lorenzo Charles' dunk in the final seconds. Valvano's run

around the court became an iconic moment frequently replayed as part of NCAA Tournament promotions. "For more than 40 years, the NCAA and its co-conspirators have systematically and intentionally misappropriated the Cardiac Pack's publicity rights including their names, images, and likenesses associated with that game and that play, reaping scores of millions of dollars from the Cardiac Pack's legendary victory," the lawsuit said.

NCAA spokesperson Michelle Hosick did not immediately return a text message seeking comment Monday from The Associated Press.

Plaintiffs include former team members Thurl Bailey, Alvin Battle, Walt Densmore, Tommy DiNardo, Terry Gannon, George McClain, Cozell McQueen, Walter Proctor, Harold Thompson and Mike Warren.

Charles died in 2011 while Dereck Whittenburg, whose missed 30-footer was collected by his teammate for the winning dunk, is a staffer in the North Carolina State athletic department. Whittenburg is not among the plaintiffs listed in the suit.

The suit contends that "student-athletes' value to the NCAA does not end with their graduation; archival footage and other

products constitute an ongoing income stream for the NCAA long after the students whose images are used have moved on from college."The NCAA

and the nation's five biggest conferences recently agreed to pay nearly \$2.8 billion to settle a host of antitrust claims, pending a judge's approval. □



North Carolina State coach Jim Valvano, center with fist raised, celebrates after the team's win over Houston to win the NCAA men's college basketball tournament championship in Albuquerque, N.M., April 4, 1983.

Associated Press



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Jayson Tatum knows his shooting numbers aren't great. The Celtics control the NBA Finals anyway

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

DALLAS (AP) — There have been two versions of Jayson Tatum so far in these NBA Finals.

Version One is shooting a dismal 12 for 38 from the field, just 31.6%, the worst percentage by far of any starter in the series between his Celtics and the Dallas Mavericks.

Version Two is second in the finals in total rebounds, leads the series in assists and, according to BetMGM Sportsbook, is currently favored to win the NBA Finals MVP award.

Add them up, and the Celtics seem completely satisfied what they're seeing from Tatum, as usual. The Celtics have a 2-0 lead in the finals going into Game 3 in Dallas on Wednesday night, meaning the NBA's best team all season is halfway to an



Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) drives to the basket against Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic, second from right, during the first half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals basketball series, Sunday, June 9, 2024, in Boston.

Associated Press

18th championship. "I understand that I do need to be more efficient," Tatum said Tuesday. "I do need

to shoot the ball better, I would not disagree with anybody on that. But I'm not letting it bother me. I'm

still trying to find ways to impact the game and dominate the game in other areas."

Getting too deep into Tatum's numbers in this series or even when adding the 2022 NBA Finals to the totals isn't a great idea, simply because of the sample size. He's been in a total of eight finals games. It's not enough to draw conclusions.

That said, while the shooting is almost shockingly bad no player in the last 60 years, with as many shot attempts as Tatum has all-time in NBA Finals play, has shot worse than his .354 clip he's on pace to do something historic.

If his averages of 17 points, 10 rebounds and 8.5 assists hold up through the rest of the series, he'd be the second player to finish a finals with those numbers.

The other is LeBron James, who did it four times.

"Criticism is the ultimate beauty," Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla said. "It's a sign of

Caitlin Clark and other rookies draw near-record crowds, record ratings for 1st month of WNBA season

NEW YORK (AP) — The first month of the WNBA season drew its highest attendance since the league's



Indiana Fever guard Caitlin Clark signs autographs for fans before the start of WNBA basketball game against the New York Liberty, Saturday, May 18, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

second season in 1998 and the best television ratings in its history, the WNBA announced Tuesday.

The figures are the latest evidence of the surging popularity of the WNBA since it added prominent rookies including Indiana's Caitlin Clark, Chicago's Angel Reese and Los Angeles' Cameron Brink, all of whom drew big audiences playing in college.

Across ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, CBS, ION and NBA TV, WNBA games are averaging 1.32 million viewers, nearly tripling last season's average of 462,000, the league said on Tuesday. "What's happening now in

women's basketball is confirmation of what we've always known: The demand is there, and women's sports is a valuable investment," said Colie Edison, the WNBA's chief growth officer. "We're encouraged by growing engagement across all our verticals, especially as we welcome new and diverse audiences into our fandom. The WNBA continues to experience sustained growth as our league embraces this heightened momentum." The WNBA finished May having sold out more than half its games, more than double the number of sellouts last year. Approxi-

mately 400,000 fans have attended games, the most through the first month in 26 years. Arenas have been filled to 94% capacity, a 17% rise from last year, the league said. Some games have been moved to bigger arenas to accommodate increased fan interest, such as Clark and the Fever playing at the Washington Wizards' downtown arena in front of 20,333 fans last Friday night instead of the Mystics' usual venue, which seats 4,200.

On the television side, the WNBA said it saw a 96% increase in Hispanic viewers and a 67% increase in Black viewers. □